

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 NEA-10

PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 DRC-01 /180 W
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P 211258Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 999

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: LIBYAN NATIONALIZATION OF THREE U.S. OIL COMPANIES

TEREF: STATE 033814 AND TRIPOLI 174

1. TEXT OF WHAT TRIPOLI REFTEL DESCRIBED AS OFFICIAL COMMENT WAS READ TO VISITING VOA CORRESPONDENT BURGESS AS SUCH BY EMPLOYEE OF LIBYAN NEE HLRFRSD # EVENING OF FEBRUARY 11 AFTER BURGESS CALLED AGENCY AT OUR REQUEST TO ASK FOR DETAILS OF NATIONALIZATION. BURGESS TOOK DOWN VERBATIM TEXT OF COMMENT FROM AGENCY SPOKESMAN. AGENCY'S FULL NAME IS ARAB REVOLUTION NEWS AGENCY. LIBYAN PRESS, WHICH WAS NATIONALIZED LAST SEPTEMBER 1, AND WHICH IS STAFFED BY EMPLOYEES OF MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, HEADLINED FEBRUARY 12 QUOTE THE FIRST SEPTEMBER REVOLUTION MAKES A NATURAL RESPONSE TO THE LOGIC OF AMERICAN MONOPOLIES WHICH IS EMBODIED BY THE NIXON CONFERENCE BY NATIONALIZING THREE AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES END QUOTE (AL FAJR AL JADID), AND QUOTE KISSINGER OPENS THE WASHINGTON OIL CONFERENCE AND THE REVOLUTION ANSWERS BY NATIONALIZING THREE AMERICAN COMPANIES END QUOTE (AL BALAGH).

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2. PERHAPS CLEAREST OFFICIAL STATEMENT THAT NATIONALIZATION WAS ACT OF POLITICAL REPRISAL WAS MADE BY PRIME MINISTER JALLUD IN PRAGUE (FBIS M121836) FEBRUARY 12. AL BALAGH AND AL FAJR AL JADID OF FEBRUARY 13 BOTH REPORTED JALLUD'S STATEMENT AS FOLLOWS CITING LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY (TRANSLATION IS EMBASSY'S):

QUOTE: MAJOR ABDESLAM JALLUD, MEMBER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL AND PRIME MINISTER, EXPLAINED IN PRAGUE YESTERDAY THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE NATIONALIZATION OF THREE AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES IN LIBYA WAS TO REPLY TO THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE OF PETROLEUM CONSUMING COUNTRIES. AMJOR JALLUD WHO IS NOW ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ADDED THAT THE NATIONALIZATION MEASURE WAS AN ANSWER TO THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE CALLED BY THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT NIXON END QUOTE.

3. TWO NATIONALIZATION DECREES AS CARRIED FBIS AND REPRINTED IN PRESS ARE NOT NUMBERED. THEIR FULL TITLES AS CARRIED IN AL FAJR AL JADID OF FEB. 12 READ QUOTE LAW NUMBER (BLANK) OF THE YEAR 1974 NATIONALIZING THE LIBYAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY, AND QUOTE LAW NUMBER (BLANK) OF THE YEAR 1974 NATIONALIZING THE TEXACO OVERSEAS OIL COMPANY AND THE CALIFORNIA ASIATIC OIL COMPANY END QUOTE. TO DATE NEITHER AMOSEAS NOR LIBYAN-AMERICAN HAS RECEIVED OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE LAWS NATIONALIZING THEM.
STEIN

NOTE BY OC/T: #GARBLED TEXT PARA 1 AS RECEIVED, WILL BE SERVICED
UPON REQUEST

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NNN

Message Attributes

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